



# NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Grass Valley • Nevada City • Nevada County • Truckee

## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director *Daniel B. Landon*

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report for the November 17, 2010 Meeting

DATE: November 5, 2010

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### 1. DORSEY DRIVE INTERCHANGE

On October 18<sup>th</sup> Winder Bajwa, Caltrans Project Manager, reported that they had developed a concept for phasing the project costs for the Dorsey Drive Interchange. Their estimate for the first phase was approximately \$11.4 million. The concept proposed to keep the widening of the overpass bridge, construction of ramps, auxiliary lanes, and most of the drainage features associated with the project in the first phase of construction. Elements that would be delayed were the widening of Dorsey Drive from East Main Street to Segsworth Way, and widening of Dorsey Drive on the east side of the overcrossing, along with construction of sound walls, landscaping, and raised islands. The cost estimate of \$11.4 million includes contingencies and mobilization costs, and Caltrans believes it is a good concept that will provide the majority of the intended benefits in the first phase of the project.

The goal of this exercise is to get the initial construction costs down to the \$10.5 million that is programmed in the 2010 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Even though \$11.4 million is much closer, when the Caltrans construction management costs are added in (\$3 to \$3.5 million), the project still costs more than is available in the 2010 STIP. The next step will be for the City of Grass Valley, Nevada County, and the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) staff to meet with Caltrans to review cost components included in the Caltrans proposal. Once we have agreement on a construction cost approach, we will review that information with two to three members of the NCTC to find out if there are any "red flags" left in the project phasing concept.

Winder Bajwa was off work during the first week of November so the plan is to schedule a meeting with Caltrans in the next two weeks.

### 2. TIGER II FUNDING

At the end of September the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) reported that the second round of their Transportation Investments Generate Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants had drawn more than \$19 billion in applications for the \$600 million that was available to award. In all, DOT said that it received almost 1,000 applications for the TIGER II competition. On October 20<sup>th</sup> the U.S. DOT announced that forty-two construction projects and thirty-three planning projects in forty states would share the \$600 million available from the TIGER II program. Unfortunately, the Dorsey Drive Interchange was not one of the four projects selected in California to receive construction funding.

### 3. TINLOY STREET TRANSIT TRANSFER FACILITY

On October 13<sup>th</sup> Nevada County opened bids for construction of the Tinloy Street Transit Transfer Facility. The low bid came in at \$1.2 million and the high bid was \$1.7 million. All bids came in over the available budget, so the county rejected all bids and will modify some of the architectural features of the project in order to bring down the construction cost. In reviewing the bids, Kevin Mayol of the Nevada County Public Works Department reported that the main problem was with the cost of the custom shelters. The proposed civil engineering work and restroom facility were on target with the engineer's estimate.

The Nevada County Public Works Department staff believes that a great deal of money can be saved by going with prefabricated shelters rather than the custom canopy-style bus shelters originally proposed. The county's plan is to finalize modifications to the bid documents in time to readvertise the project in December/January, and to award a contract in March/April 2011. This will facilitate construction starting in May and the project being completed in August.

### 4. TOWN OF TRUCKEE TRANSIT SERVICE CONTRACT

On November 4<sup>th</sup> the Truckee Town Council awarded a contract for transit services to El Camino Trailways, who is their current provider for Transit Services. On September 3<sup>rd</sup> the Town received proposals for transit service operations from M.V. Transportation, Silverado Stages, Storer Transit, and El Camino Trailways. Following evaluation of the proposals by a committee made up of Gordon Shaw, LSC Transportation Consultants; Dan Landon, NCTC Executive Director; Susan Healy-Harman, Nevada County Transit Services Manager; and Alex Terrazas, Town of Truckee Assistant Town Manager; a consensus was reached to recommend awarding the contract to El Camino Trailways.

The contract is for a term of three years with an option to renew for an additional two years. It was noted that during FY 2010/11, the proposed contract would provide a savings of approximately \$48,000 over the budgeted transit contract costs.

### 5. TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION

The Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Commission (TTALUC) held their first meeting on October 19, 2010. Items on the agenda included election of officers for 2010, appointment of a seventh member to the TTALUC, adoption of the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, adoption of a TTALUC Fee Schedule, adoption of the TTALUC Bylaws, and drawing lots to determine the terms of office for each member.

During the meeting Ted Owens, Nevada County District 5 Supervisor, was elected to serve as Chairman of the TTALUC for 2010, and Jennifer Montgomery, Placer County District 5 Supervisor, was chosen to serve as the Vice Chairman for 2010. The TTALUC had received two applications for appointment as the seventh member. The two applicants were Doug Taggart and Ken Foster, both residents of Carnelian Bay. The TTALUC appointed Ken Foster as the seventh member to represent the general public, with Doug Taggart being appointed as the alternate general public member. The TTALUC adopted the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, the recommended TTALUC Fee Schedule, and the TTALUC Bylaws.

In accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 21671.5 (a), the members went through a process to determine terms of office, with the following results:

Ted Owens, Nevada County Supervisors representative – four year term  
Jennifer Montgomery, Placer County Supervisors representative – three year term  
Dr. Mark Brown, Nevada County City Selection Committee representative – one year term  
Paul Joiner, Placer County City Selection Committee representative – two year term  
Kevin Smith, Nevada County Airport Managers representative – three year term  
Brent Collinson, Placer County Airport Managers representative – four year term  
Ken Foster, General Public representative – two year term

TTALUC directed staff to schedule their next meeting for January 2011. Items to be included in that meeting agenda will be to adopt a Conflict of Interest Code, annual review of the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and the TTALUC Bylaws, update the TTALUC Fee Schedule, swear in the general public members, and election of officers for 2011.

## 6. NORTH STATE SUPER REGION

On October 20<sup>th</sup> the North State Super Region held its first meeting at the Butte County Association of Governments in Chico. The group developed the following draft Mission Statement:

*An alliance to identify common transportation growth and land use issues, and formulate unified strategies that can be advocated to implementing agencies and the public.*

One of the items discussed on the agenda was potential support by the North State Super Region of the *Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act*. This act was signed into law in December 2000 and it provides payments to counties for roads and to public schools, and provides payments to counties to invest in Title Two Forest Improvement Projects. The act also authorizes counties to create, in cooperation with the United States Forest Service, collaborative resource advisory committees. This act expired in September 2006, and after a year long discussion, Congress passed an emergency supplemental appropriation and the act was extended until September 2007. Since that time a group known as the National Forest, Counties, and Schools Coalition has continued to work to secure reauthorization of the *Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act*.

According to the partnership for Rural America campaign website, Nevada County has received or will receive the following National Forest payments under the *Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act*:

2008	\$716,825
2009	\$645,143
2010	\$581,425
2011	\$219,192
2012	\$113,372 (estimated)

The total of these payments over the five-year period is \$2,275,957. The goal of the partnership for the Rural America Campaign is to achieve reauthorization of the *Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act* with appropriations at a fixed level. Following the North State Super Region meeting, I provided information regarding the reauthorization effort to the Nevada County Department of Transportation Director Doug Farrell.

The North State Super Region group also discussed the potential of securing a California Transportation Commission meeting location in northern California in the coming year. During a

roundtable discussion of North State issues, Gary Antone, representing Tehama County, noted that a local streets and roads assessment survey is being completed and members of the North State Super Region are encouraged to participate in the data gathering process. The Super Region plans to provide coordinated data from the survey on its website, which will be online in the near future.

The next meeting of the North State Super Region is tentatively scheduled for February 16, 2011 in Redding, California.